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and corresponding to an Internet site outside of the computer system;
means for receiving the streaming content from the Internet streaming content server, the streaming content including an audio portion; and
means for sending at least the audio portion of the streaming content to the telephone.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request further examination and reconsideration in view of the above amendments. Claims 1-25 are rejected. Claims 1-25 remain pending in the case. Claims 1, 17 and 25 have been amended herein. No new matter has been added.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendments. The attachment is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claim 25 is objected to due to an informality. Claim 25 has been amended herein. As such, a discussion of the claim objection is moot at this time.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-7, 9-10, 13-17, 19 and 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent 5,884,262 by Wise et al., hereinafter the "Wise" reference, in view of United States Patent 6,396,907 by Didcock, hereinafter the "Didcock" reference. Applicants have reviewed the cited references and respectfully submit that the present invention as recited in Claims 1-7, 9-10, 13-17, 19 and 24-25 is not anticipated nor rendered obvious by Wise in view of Didcock.

Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner to independent Claim 1 that recites that an embodiment of the present invention is directed to (emphasis added):

A method of providing streaming content from the Internet to a telephone using a computer system, the computer system including a telephone interface system coupled in communications with an Internet access system, the telephone interface system being coupled in communications with the telephone, the method comprising:

receiving an Internet access request, the Internet access request implicitly based on at least one user personalization choice and corresponding to an Internet site outside of the computer system;

receiving the streaming content from the Internet site, the streaming content including an audio portion; and

sending at least the audio portion of the streaming content over the telephone interface system to send an audio signal, corresponding to the audio portion, to the telephone.

Independent Claims 17 and 25 recite similar limitations. Claims 2-16 that depend from independent Claim 1 and Claims 18-24 that depend from

independent Claim 17 provide further limitations descriptive of the features of the present invention.

The cited combination fails to teach or suggest Claims 1, 17 or 25. For instance, Wise does not teach or suggest a method for providing streaming content to a telephone in response to an implicit request based on a user personalization choice. The cited combination also fails to teach this claim limitation because Didcock fails to remedy this default. On the contrary, Wise teaches a computer network audio access and conversion system. In particular, Applicants understand Wise to teach a system for presenting information based on an explicit request for information.

As described in the claimed embodiment of the present invention, a method is provided for providing streaming content over a telephone interface wherein the streaming content is implicitly requested. Specifically, the claimed embodiment recites the limitation of an Internet access request for implicitly based on at least one user personalization choice (see page 45, lines 13-14 of the present application). As described in the specification, user personalization may be used to adopt implicit preferences (see page 32, lines 13-18 of the present application). This feature provides streaming content to a user in response to an implicit request based on a user personalization profile. As such, streaming content can be provided to a user without the user explicitly requesting the content.

In contrast, Wise teaches a system for presenting information over a telephone, wherein the information is presented in response to an explicit request for the information. Specifically, user commands or signals are received at a Call Manager that translates the commands or signals. As taught in Wise, these signals or commands are a user entering in a numerical or alphanumeric sequence or by stating a voice command (col. 6, lines 30. Furthermore, the system as taught in Wise “will attempt to interpret the user command and then attempt to navigate based on the command” (col. 6, lines 31-35). In particular, Wise describes a system where the information is presented in response to an explicit user command.

Applicants respectfully submit that Wise does not teach or suggest a method for providing streaming content over a telephone interface wherein the streaming content is implicitly requested. In particular, the system as taught in Wise does not teach or suggest a method for providing streaming content to a telephone in response to an implicit request based on a user personalization choice. On the contrary, Wise teaches a system where the information is presented based on an explicit user command.

Moreover, the combination of Wise and Didcock fails to teach or suggest this claim limitation because Didcock does not overcome the shortcomings of Wise. Didcock, alone or in combination with Wise, does not show or suggest a

method for providing streaming content over a telephone interface wherein the streaming content is implicitly requested. As described above, Wise teaches a system for presenting information over a telephone in response to an explicit command.

Applicants understand Didcock to teach a system for providing cached message streams. In particular, Didcock does not teach a method for providing streaming content in response to an implicit request. The system of Didcock presents a cached message to a user in response to a message playback selection (step 510 of Figure 5). In contrast, the present invention as claimed presents streaming content based on an implicit request. Specifically, embodiments of the present invention provide an implicit request based on at least one personalization choice of a user.

In view of the claim limitation of providing streaming content over a telephone interface wherein the streaming content is implicitly requested not being shown or suggested in Didcock, in combination with the above arguments, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 1, 17 and 25 overcomes the cited references and is therefore allowable over the combination of Wise and Didcock.

Applicants respectfully assert that nowhere does the combination of Wise and Didcock teach, disclose or suggest the present invention as recited

in independent Claims 1, 17 and 25, and that Claims 1, 17 and 25 are thus in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit the combination of Wise and Didcock also does not teach or suggest the additional claimed features of the present invention as recited in Claims 2-16 that are dependent on allowable base Claim 1, and Claims 18-24 that are dependent on allowable base Claim 17. Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 2-16 and 18-24 overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as these claims are dependent on allowable base claims.

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wise and Didcock, further in view of United States Patent 6,097,793 by Jandel. Claim 8 is dependent on allowable base Claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 8 distinguishes the cited prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as this claim is dependent on an allowable base claim.

Claims 11, 12, 18-20 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wise and Didcock, further in view of United States Patent 6,115,747 by Billings et al. Claims 11 and 12 are dependent on allowable base Claim 1 and Claims 18-20 and 23 are dependent on allowable base Claim 17. Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 11, 12, 18-20 and 23 distinguishes the cited prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as these claims are dependent on an allowable base claim.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims. Based on the arguments presented above, Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1-25 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of these Claims.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the specification:

Paragraph beginning at line 2 of page 4 has been amended as follows:

This specification relates to, incorporates by reference, and claims priority from, United States Patent Application 09/426,102 [###/###,###], entitled, "Method and Apparatus for Content Personalization Over a Telephone Interface," filed October 22, 1999, having inventors Hadi Partovi, Roderick S. Brathwaite, Angus M. Davis, Michael S. McCue, Brandon W. Porter, John Giannandrea, Eckart Walther, Anthony Accardi, and Zhe Li.[.]

In the claims:

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. A method of providing streaming content from the Internet to a telephone using a computer system, the computer system including a telephone interface system coupled in communications with an Internet access system, the telephone interface system being coupled in communications with the telephone, the method comprising:

receiving an Internet access request, the Internet access request

implicitly based on at least one user personalization choice and

corresponding to an Internet site outside of the computer system;

receiving the streaming content from the Internet site, the streaming content including an audio portion; and
sending at least the audio portion of the streaming content over the telephone interface system to send an audio signal, corresponding to the audio portion, to the telephone.

Claim 17 has been amended as follows:

17. A computer system to deliver streaming content from the Internet to a telephone, the computer system comprising:
an Internet interface including at least one program to receive the streaming content in response to an implicit request based on at least one user personalization choice from the Internet and extract a streaming audio signal from the streaming content;
a telephone interface to send an audio signal to the telephone, the audio signal corresponding to the streaming audio signal; and
a control subsystem to control the Internet interface and the telephone interface.

Claim 25 has been amended as follows:

25. (Amended) A computer system delivering streaming content to a telephone, the streaming content being received from a Internet streaming content server, the computer system comprising:

means for receiving an Internet access request, the Internet access request implicitly based on at least one user personalization choice and corresponding to an Internet site outside of the computer system;

means for receiving the streaming content from the Internet streaming content server, the streaming content including an audio portion; and
means for sending at least the audio portion of the streaming content to the telephone.